GREAT MILITARY DRAMA ON EASTERN FRONT MAY SHAPE DESTINIES OF ALL BELLIGERENTS; GREAT RESPONSIBILITY ON RUSS SHOULDERS

- Germans Striking in Confident **Belief Separate Peace** Can Be Won.

FIRM STAND OF SLAVS MAY SHORTEN THE WAR

Continued Reverses Undoubtedly Will Hazard Provisional Government's Control Over Nation.

KAISER PLAYS FOR BIG STAKE

Successes Essential to Preservation of Present Military Forms and Keeping Up German Spirits.

BY OLIVER OWEN KUHN.

A great military drama involving the future welfare of not only one, but many nations, is being enacted on the northernmost stretches of the eastern front, where the demoralized Russian is seeking to hold in check the victorysatiated German. When there came from this battle region the news, "The Germans have forced a crossing of the Dvina" and "The Teutonic armies have occupied Riga," it may be truthfully stated that a new phase of the war was ushered in, a period fraught with the gravest possibilities for Russia and Germany, as well as all the governments arrayed against each other in the present world conflict. From the present series of operations Germany can gain much-she can lose much. Russia may deliver herself and enter into pathways leading to national security or she may plunge into deepest chaos, only to emerge with the stain of nternational disgrace and broken

Upon the result of this struggle which is now proceeding as the result of the Teutonic intention to forever eliminate the Russian as a serious consideration in this great world conflict depends to a large measure the length of the war. Should the Russian hold firm and frustrate the Teutonic ambition to progress into the very heart of the Slavic nation, then the entente's chance of bringing the war to an early conclusion is enhanced a hundredfold. Should the German continue his successful drives to a point where the Russian revolution is undermined, wrecked and such chaos ushered in that there will be no other recourse than to conclude a separate peace, then the war must go on and on to lengths unknown or even surmised.

Upon German success hinges the very fate of Germany. The armies of the Fate of Germany forms in Ger-Hinges on Success. many are to

remain forever secured. Should Germany lose in her present effort and ontinue to suffer reverses on other battle fronts, as she undoubtedly will, the war-weary German people may then forget the long line of German victories and achievements in the present struggle and decide to call a halt, e-establish new governmental forms and forever remove from their daily life the influence of militaristic policies. The eastern front is the only one where military effort may be counted upon to enhance present German governmental policies.

Paradoxical as it may be seem, the German government has much to gain, much to lose in the present great effort. The German peoples, if they but become enlightened, have much to gain by reverses in this arena, where successes are so counted upon by the government.

ernment.

In the final analysis it remains for
the Russian to strike the blow which
will undermine such confidence as has been revived among German people by

Even though demoralized, Russia may wet make the move which will end the war indirectly through the German people, though it be not a blow illumined with glories generally surrounding tremendously successful offensive military endeavor. Russians have only to hold firm. But it is the element of doubt as to Russian ability that heightens the dramatic in present events.

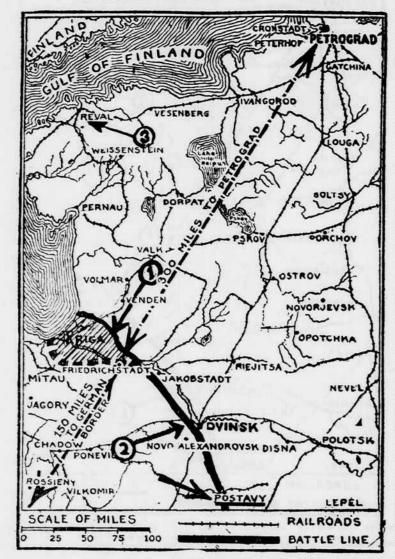
A few days more than a week ago the Germans struck toward Riga after their heavy guns had bombarded the this important Bal-

Germans Follow tic seaport from a Their Old Plans. southwest in the

region of Mitau and from the southeast in the region of the famous Uxkull

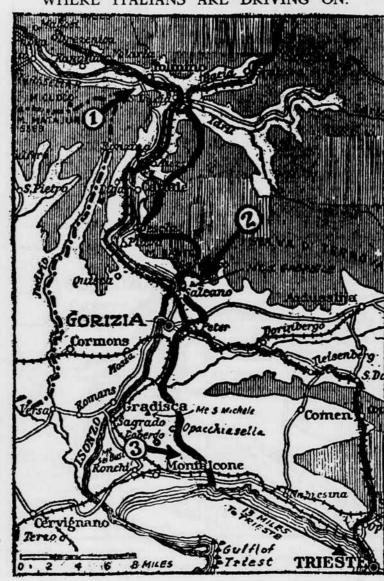
plans well prepared months and months ago, even before the von Mindenburg of mental of the German cause as now. With the co-operation of the German cause as now. With things going badly on the Austrian front, with the steady crumbling of their lines on the west and fearing an affect of the mental could be accomplished for their cause in the Rail coast and the coast of the fluid of Finland. Were the Russian armies in the Savice screens soon would redenly decided that greatest good could be accomplished for their cause in the Riga region and during the early days of the revolution, the German counts in this section, preceding and during the early days of the revolution, the German counts in this section, preceding and during the early days of the revolution, the German counts in this section, preceding and during the early days of the revolution, the German counts in this section, preceding and during the early days of the revolution, the German counts in this section of the battle front, so the German counts and country is might be able to hold German with seating the most important period to the German were in good possible from the form the desired that the country is the server respect to strike the German cause in more respects than one, the command to advance was given. As the German spossibly knew before. As the German possibly knew before and the country of the teach of the Russian armies into the very heart of the very respect to strike the German spossibly knew before. As the German possibly knew before and the country of the teach of the country of the severes blows of the war. All hope that the Slavs will yet revented to fight, evacuating their possitions without show of resistance to the enemy contained to fight the country of the country of the severes blows of the war. All hope that the Slavs will yet revented to fight, evacuating their possitions without show of resistance to the country of the

CRITICAL ARENA OF WAR.



Arrow 3-Where the Russian fleet is supposed to be assembled

WHERE ITALIANS ARE DRIVING ON



Arrow 1—Where Italians have seored some progress in direction of Tolmino.

Arrow 2—Where Italians and Austrians are locked in deadly conflict for possession of Mount San Gabriele.

Arrow 3—Where Austrian attacks have been cut up by the forces of Gen. Cadvina.

bridgehead the Germans moved for- they must maintain. But this dan- said to be in the Gulf of Finland, facing it, the German government un-

ward in force. They were following ger is eliminated for the present mo- Should the Russian fleet, which is a plans well prepared months and months ment and for some weeks to come, for considerable one in so far as numbers of Why the Kaiser continue to sancago, even before the von Hindenburg with the co-operation of the German war vessels are concerned, sally forth offensive in 1915 was brought to a halt. Heet in the Baltic communication lines from the Gulf of Finland it might be

Italians Driving Hard, Continue to Undermine Austrian Military Power.

WITHIN THEIR POWER TO BREAK THE ENEMY

Germany has a better chance of securing a separate peace.

Confidence in the Russian government and peoples is professed in allied capitals. But whether the wiser heads of Russia will be permitted to rule in the face of military, as well as economic adversity remains to be seen. Germany, while she is striking at Russian armies, also will strike at Russian destinies through the medium of the well organized discordant elements in Russia. She will show no let-up until it has been proven definitely that the Russian revolution is one that is permanent, one that—thoroughly aroused to the trickery of a ruthless Germany—will not listen to peace despite reverse after reverse. It may be said that the basic reason for the present German offen. reason for the present German offen-point where the Italians are endanger-sive is the supreme confidence of Ger-ling the whole Teutonic cause through nan rulers and commanders that Rus sia can be forced to ask separate peace, and should the German view be upheld the war will be prolonged for years.

many may demand economic assistance Pro-Germans Would Aid Kaiser.

other enemies. The pro-German ele-

These are possibilities. As a matter of fact the Russian provisional government, though still beset with grevious trials. Is dealing with discordant elements with a strong hand. Monarchist plots to overthrow the provisional government were, during the past week, frustrated in the arrest of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, Grand Duke Paul and numerous other followers of the czar. Everywhere the government and outbreaks, while serious efforts are being made to minimize economic trials lowlands to prevent further entente of as well as rehabilitate the military forces of the nation, and not without some degree of success, though Russia's future remains as problematical

The French and British armies have the subject to the past week. sia's future remains as problematical and as subject to varying winds as in the past. There is no desire to discount the wishes of the better classes of people. The question is one, purely, as to whether these better elements can unravel the tangled skeins of Russia's destinies in the face of elements which are striving as visiterity to have are striving as vigilantly to keep them

With grave internal complications doubtedly will along the

sessions, should they be not adjourned UNCLE SAM'S NAVY NEEDS

in the loss of the continued and the enemy turned back on every it any successes. On the castern from the deal to the enemy one of the fight, every the show of resistance to the loyal forces that much the barder. The position of the Russians at Rica became dangerous as the German have not on the position of the Russians at Rica became dangerous as the German have not on the sweep possibility that the loval triangle of the sweep possibility that the loval triangle of the sweep possibility that the sweep possibility that the sweep possibility that the loyal forces that much the barder and the castern from the deal of the enemy turned back on every it any successes. If they can continue their drives against the first preparation, as continued their from the form of the Russians at Rica became dangerous as the Russians at Rica became dangerous as the German have of discontent of the Russians at Rica became dangerous as the German have a chance of accomplishing than the enemy turned back on every it any successes. On the castern from the Germans have an chance of accomplishing than the enemy turned back on every it any successes. It five can continue their drives against the the Russians fleet and much the preparation. There is a possibility that the loval trianger is the grain of the Russians fleet and much the preparation of the Russians and the continue of the Russians fleet and much the preparation of the Russians fleet and much the preparation of the Russians fleet and much the preparation of the Russians and the continue in the Russian fleet and much the preparation of the Russians and the continue in the Russian fleet and much the preparation of the Russians and the continue in the Russian fleet and much the preparation of the Russians and fleet and the continue in the Russian fleet and much the preparation of the Russians and the continue in the Russian fleet and much the preparation of the Russians and fleet and the continue in the Russian fleet and the continue in the Russian fleet and much the preparation

While activities on the northern sec tion of the eastern front may be portentous in chartles which have been raging for three weeks in the regions to the east of Gorizia. Here Italian armies operating

their blows at the Austrians.

their blows at the Austrians.

It evidently is the intention of Gen. Cadorna to keep up his blows on the center of the Austrian line, to the east and southeast of Gorizia. Through the Chiapovano valley lies the road to Vienna. Furthermore, the Italians have it within their power, by continued achievements in this particular region, to drive a wedge isolating the Austrian armies operating in the defense of Triest on the Carso front and those operating on the northernmost section of the Julian front, in the region of Tolmino.

other enemies. The pro-German elements and those opposed to the present revolution, would eagerly treat with Germany on such terms and aid in every respect were they in turn permitted to continue in power, which is decidedly doubtful. At any rate, a stricken Russia will increase the entente's difficulties on the western front, where new legions will have to be combated and where undoubtedly Germany's chief attention would be centered, in case of a peace with Russia. Germany would be securer against allied progress in Macedonia, while the Italians might be checked in their drives for the very heart of Austria. Entente armies would feel the weight of German numbers now scattered over the entire thousand-mile eastern front, and undoubtedly their task would be so severe as to prolong the struggle indefinitely—if military events are to decide who is to emerge victorious in the present struggle.

These are possibilities. As a matter of

the czar. Everywhere the government s making an attempt to curb discordined by the Germans to unleash the

been practically idle for the past week or so, except on the Aisne front, where the armies of Gen. Petain have forced back several German attacks and where a few isolated sections of German trenches have been taken. The Cana-dians have drawn a few hundred yards dians have drawn a few hundred yards into the environs of Lens, but the big nush in Flanders is at a standstill. Intense artillery and aerial fighting, however, indicate that the allies once more will resume their drives when they consider the time auspicious.

There have been a few minor actions along the Macedonian front, but these fail as yet to indicate the entente purnose of soon ushering in an offensive

for many months.

MORE RADIO OPERATORS

Good Positions and Salary Await Those Who Desire to Enter the Service.

Radio operators are needed for the naval communication service. In view of the additional responsibilities mposed upon the service by the war, qualified radio and telegraph operators, pro-

fessional or amateur, or men who have a fair knowledge of electricity and radio telegraphy and who could soon be qualified as operators are wanted. Promising apprentice seamen and seamen who are undergoing training at naval training stations are also being given opportunity to The radio applicant may enlist in the

Berlin that victories over the Russians, with the hoped-for Russian peace, will so appease the discordant elements of Austria-Hungary that further flouting of German purposes will cease, and that Austria, by being able to withdraw her armies from the Russian front, will be able to devote sole attention to Italy, with greater and proper concurrenting re-NOT A MILESTONE TO VICTORY. BUT BARES RUSSIA'S COLLAPSE

with greater and more encourses sults.

Thus it may be seen that the present battles on the eastern front are far-reaching in character. This arens of war, should the Germans continue their present drives another fortnight, will be the center of the world's attention.

As Achievement in Dream of Mittel-Europa be the center of the world's attention.

Many Serve to Revive Drooping Spirits of German People.

at Life of Austria. So than the bat-AS DECISION MUST BE WON IN WEST

urther Gains, Carrying Them Over

Mountains, Will Menace

Vienna.

FRESENT BATTLES TERRIELE

Gadorna's Forces Undoubbelly Striving to Shatter Tuttonic Alliance

by Forcing Enemy to End War.

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Gastinia are said to have quantity religion

in Detrograd at the German victory. It shall not the said of the

and impotence.

The Pan-Germanic Dream.

On the larger side, Riga is interesting because it was an essential detail of that pan-Germanic dream which has almost been realized on the map. If stroyed at Verdun. Every day since and France before the United States be-

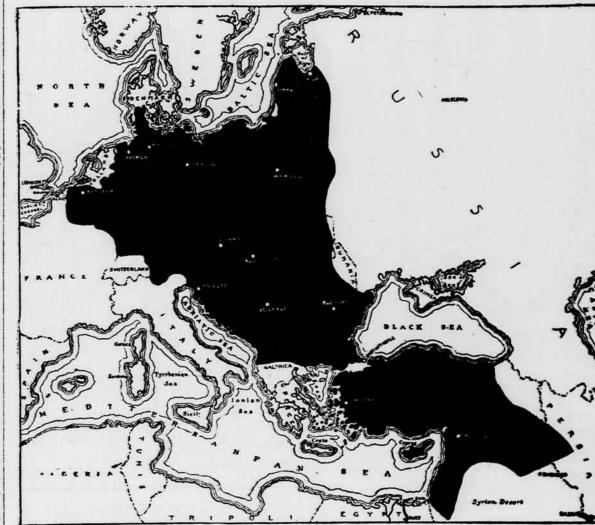
ing force effectively in the field at the moment. Could the French army have had not a greater success on the map been broken Mitteleuropa would have a permanent fact, for many

casualties, of suffering at home, of losses of influence and future commercial opportunity abroad. But it is still the most dazzling dream that any race dreamed, and it acquires a new, if passing, vitality when Riga, one of the last elements, is at last brought within the Mitteleuropa frontier.

The war will have to continue until the dream is shattered, because a Germany dominating central Europe at the close of the war will dominate the world within a quarter of a century. It would have been shattered already if Russia had not fallen, mainly through German intrigue; for it was the Germans who corrupted the menarchy and led it to the great betrayal of the Russian armies in 1916 and 1916; to the sacrifice of Rumania, which remains the greatest tragedy of the war, and when the menarchy had

Napoleon at the height of his nowe than Germany has. German failure has been in her inability to destroy France

MITTEL-EUROPA.



SOLID BLACK SHOWS TERRITORY OCCUPIED BY GERMANY AND HER ALLIES.

one should go back and look at the has seen the slow chb of German hope gan to send its men to the conflict. To-

one should go back and look at the pan-German maps, already forgotten, an anglerman maps, already forgotten, and angle the pan-German maps, already forgotten, and angle the pan-German maps, already forgotten, and angle the pan-German maps, already forgotten, and armies, German statesmen and had drawn across central Emope new and striking frontier of the charden of Esich, for the charden of the Charden of Esich, for the charden of which armies should change cars as heir tide of invasion was directed by in which armies should change cars as their tide of invasion was directed by the Hedjaz railroad to Suez, or by the Bagdad line to Basra at the head of the Persian gulf, and beyond, in due course of time, India was to beckon

Churchill Britain's Alcibiades.

Two years ago, when the attention of struggle in Artois and Flanders, Britain sending her troops needed in France to Gallipoli under the urgings of Winston Alcibiades, sent their ships and troops as

that the campaign of 1870 would be repeated; that a short, sharp struggle would give her possession of the land she coveted, the supremacy in Europe she desired and the foundation for the attack which should first destroy the British empire and then enable her to build a German empire beyond the seas. The victory was not so swift; her initial blow was parried at the Marne, Austria was almost destroyed in the opening campaign in Galicia; and yet after a few months of delay incident to preparation a new German blow in the east shattered and destroyed Russian military strength and ber 4. These are the next objectives,

blow in the east shattered and destroyed Russian military strength and before the year had ended almost all the eastern, Balkan, Asiatic purposes of Germany were realized, and from that day to this they have endured.

Vanishing of the Dream.

The line of power runs clear and uninterrupted today from Berlin to Jerusalem and to the environs of Bagdad. It is a reality on the map and in the minds of the German people still. It is a reality which grows less permanent as month follows month of terrible.